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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/738,209	12/15/2000	Pieter J. van Zee	10003717-1	1143

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EXAMINER

MARIAM, DANIEL G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/738,209

Applicant(s)

ZEE, PIETER J. VAN

Examiner

DANIEL G MARIAM

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claim 27 recites the limitation “web page/*groupwise* (emphasis added)” in line 9. The specification says nothing about “groupwise”, and thus lacks support in the specification.

Since claims 28-34 directly depend on claim 27, they are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for the same reason set forth above for claim 27.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Melen, et al.
(6,263,121)

With regard to claim 1, a method for efficient information storage and retrieval of information (col. 2, lines 3-19), comprising the steps of: scanning/selecting/capturing a selected portion of text of the information, i.e., document attributes, key terms, words and/or text terms, wherein the selected portion of text scanned is a close-to-unique identifier of the text, and serves as a key when the information is accessed electronically, and placing the key in an electronically available index/directory, i.e., attribute index (170), to facilitate retrieval of the information (col. 2, lines 43-67; col. 3, lines 1-58; col. 4, lines 49-67; and col. 5, lines 15-65).

With regard to claim 2, the method of claim 1 wherein the information is in electronic form and the method further includes a step of storing the electronic information in a storage medium and making the electronic information available for search and retrieval using the key (See for example, col. 2, lines 43-54).

With regard to claim 3, the method of claim 1 wherein the information is printed and the method further includes the steps of scanning and processing the information to provide an electronic copy of the information, storing the electronic copy of the information in a storage medium and making the electronic copy available for search and retrieval using the Key (See for example, col. 3, lines 1-12).

With regard to claim 4, the method of claim 1 wherein the information is stored in a non-commercially accessible database (See for example, Fig. 1; and col. 4, lines 11-19)

With regard to claim 5, the method of claim 1 wherein the information is obtained from a commercially accessible database (which reads on col. 4, lines 19-20).

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With regard to claim 6, the method of claim 1 further including, upon the user requesting retrieval of information associated with the key, providing the information associated therewith (which reads on col. 6, lines 51-67; and col. 31-34).

With regard to claim 7, the method of claim 1 wherein further related/relevant information is also provided that is correlated with at least one of: the key and associated information (See for example, col. 3, lines 36-58; and col. 5, lines 15-41).

With regard to claim 8, the method of claim 1 further including clipping and holding the selected portion of text as a key for accessing information that is electronically available at a later date (See Figure 4).

With regard to claim 9, an index/directory information retrieval unit, arranged to send a selected portion of text of the information to an index/directory storage unit, for scanning/selecting/capturing the selected portion of text of the information wherein the selected portion of text is a close-to-unique identifier of the text and serves as a key when the information is desired to be accessed electronically, the index/directory storage unit, arranged to receive and store the key from the index/directory information retrieval unit, for placing the key in an electronically available index/directory to facilitate retrieval of the information from a storage medium that is accessible electronically, and the storage medium that is accessible electronically, wherein the storage medium is arranged to be searched using the key held in the index/directory to identify information in the storage medium that corresponds to the key, wherein a computer/user unit is arranged to send/receive information from/to the index/directory storage unit and the storage medium, and is arranged to request retrieval of information based on the key

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(col. 2, lines 43-67; col. 3, lines 1-58; col. 4, lines 49-67; col. 5, lines 15-65; and col. 6, lines 47-67).

Claims 10, 11, 12, and 13 are rejected the same as claims 2, 3, 4, and 5 respectively, except claims 10, 11, 12, and 13 are apparatus claims. Thus, arguments similar to those presented above for claims 2, 3, 4, and 5 are respectively applicable to claims 10, 11, 12, and 13.

With regard to claim 14, the system of claim 9 wherein the information is obtained from local accessible storage media (See for example, col. 4, lines 11-19; and Fig. 1).

Claims 15, 16, and 17 are rejected the same as claims 6, 7, and 8 respectively, except claims 15, 16, and 17 are apparatus claims. Thus, arguments similar to those presented above for claims 6, 7, and 8 are respectively applicable to claims 15, 16, and 17.

Claim 18 is rejected the same as claim 1. Thus, argument analogous to that presented above for claim 1 is applicable to claim 18. Melen, et al further discloses a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps of claim 1 (See Figure 1).

With regard to claim 19, the computer-readable medium of claim 18 wherein the information is in electronic form and the steps further include retrieving and indexing the information context identified by the index/directory for fast retrieval and processing (See for example, col. 3, lines 15-34; and col. 4, lines 49-61).

Claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 are rejected the same as claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 respectively. Thus, arguments analogous to those presented above for claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are respectively applicable to claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26.

Claim 27 is rejected the same as claim 18. Thus, argument similar to that presented above for claim 18 is equally applicable to claim 27. Claim 27 distinguishes from claim 18 only in that it recites placing the key in an electronically available index/directory on a web page/groupwise, i.e., category, linking/hyperlinking and/or network, accessible area to facilitate search and retrieval of desired incoming information. Melen, et al further teaches this feature (See for example, col. 4, lines 11-25; and Fig. 4)

Claims 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 are rejected the same as claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 respectively. Thus, arguments analogous to those presented above for claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 are respectively applicable to claims 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Patent Numbers: 4965763, 5265242, 5991755, 6038561, 6094649, 6178417, 6208988, 6327589, 6505196, 6522782, and 6625624. Publications to: Ariki, et al. "Indexing and classification of TV articles based on telop recognition"; and Renals, et al. "The THISL system for indexing and retrieval of broadcast news".

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL G MARIAM whose telephone number is 703-305-4010. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00-4:30) FIRST FRIDAY OFF.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, LEO BOUDREAU can be reached on 703-305-4607. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.


DANIEL MARIAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2621

September 26, 2003